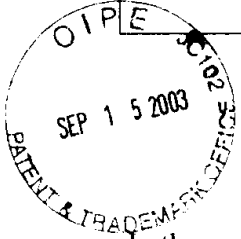


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Tami Procopio
Tami Procopio



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Masahiko MIHARA

Serial No.: 09/381,598

Filing Date: September 20, 1999

For: PREVENTATIVES OR REMEDIES FOR
SENSITIZED T CELL-RELATED
DISEASES CONTAINING IL-6
ANTAGONISTS AS THE ACTIVE
INGREDIENT

Examiner: Joseph F. Murphy

Group Art Unit: 1646

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is in response to a final Office action herein mailed March 11, 2003, setting a time for response to expire on June 11, 2003. A petition for an extension of time for three (3) months, which extends the time for response until September 11, 2003 is attached herewith along with the required fee. Pending claims 14-22 and 33-38 were rejected in the final Office action. Careful consideration has been given to the grounds for rejection and the following remarks are offered in response. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.